



The 2014 Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) Fact Sheet

WHAT

- In 2014, about 4,000 extra households containing one or more NHPI residents will be added to the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS). The NHIS is the nation's largest in-person household health survey. It has been conducted annually since 1957 by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), which is a part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Interviewing is done by the U.S. Census Bureau's field staff.
- The survey collects information on health status and conditions, disability, access to and use of health services, health insurance coverage, immunizations, risk factors, and health-related behaviors.
- More information about the NHIS can be found at CDC's website: www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm

WHY

- The NHPI population is a distinct racial group that comprises 0.4% of the total U.S. population. This makes it a difficult group to include in sufficient numbers in most national surveys. To protect the privacy of NHPI survey participants, NHPI data has historically been combined with Asian data when statistics are shown by race. As a result, there is little nationally representative data on NHPI health.
- This project does not replace state and local level NHPI health data collection efforts. However, this project is important for different reasons. This survey will include *all Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander groups in all 50 states* (and the District of Columbia). In addition, because this survey is *nationally representative*, it will be possible to compare the results to national estimates on other groups. Results from the survey will be *publically available for statistical purposes*, after being thoroughly processed to ensure that the data records cannot be linked to individual persons or households. NCHS and the Census Bureau have over 50 years of experience conducting the NHIS, and the NHIS is one of the nation's primary sources for *high-quality population health data*.
- The NHPI NHIS is an unprecedented opportunity to collect rich and accurate information about the health of NHPI people in all 50 states. With the information collected, it will be possible for policymakers, researchers, health professionals, and NHPI organizations, leaders, and community members to understand NHPI health problems, strengths, and needs and to plan policies and programs to improve NHPI health and well-being.
- *NHPI community leaders, as well as policy makers, researchers, and service providers, agree we need better data on the health of NHPI people.* The NHPI NHIS helps to meet the goal of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) of improving the collection and reporting of data on NHPI populations and increasing the capacity to conduct more reliable statistical research for NHPI populations.



The 2014 Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) Fact Sheet (continued)

WHERE

- The NHPI NHIS will be conducted in all 50 states including Alaska and Hawaii as well as the District of Columbia. The NHPI NHIS will not be conducted in Guam, American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia or Palau. The NHPI NHIS will be conducted throughout the U.S. with more interviews occurring where there are more NHPI households.

HOW

- The Census Bureau will send an invitation letter to the households selected for the survey.
- Professional Census Bureau interviewers will visit the selected households to conduct the survey. Each interviewer has an identification badge that identifies him or her as a representative of the Census Bureau and of CDC. The interviewer will attempt to complete the survey at this first meeting. If that is not possible, repeated attempts either in person or over the phone are made to complete the interview. Interviewers are flexible about where and when interviews are conducted. Interviews can be conducted any day of the week and any time of day.
- All interviewers will be trained on NHPI cultural sensitivity and awareness.

WHO

- This survey uses a preselected scientific sample. *Due to the scientific methods used to pick addresses, no address can be exchanged for another.* Each selected household represents many others across the country. If the project were to use a volunteer, non-scientifically-selected sample, the survey results would not represent the entire country. Furthermore, *a high response rate is important to ensure high data quality.* By participating, respondents have the opportunity to represent their communities and ensure the success of this unprecedented NHPI health survey.
- The NHPI NHIS will collect health information about everyone in the household even if only one person is NHPI.
- Participation is voluntary and greatly appreciated. No payment is being offered for participation.
- All data collected for this survey are used for statistical purposes only and are guaranteed by law to be held in the strictest of confidence.